

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEDELL 00223 191402Z

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ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 AID-20 /051 W

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R 182130Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 854

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS MEDELLIN 0223

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR-EAID-EGEN

SUBJ: SEMINAR DISCUSSES INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS

REF: BOGOTA 4864

1. A 3-DAY SEMINAR ON INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS WAS HELD IN THE QUIRAMA CONFERENCE CENTER NEAR MEDELLIN JULY 15-17. THE SEMINAR WAS ORGANIZED BY EX-PRESIDENT CARLOS LLERAS RESTREPO AND PROFESSOR PAUL N. ROSENSTEIN-RODAN OF THE LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER OF BOSTON UNIVERSITY.

2. PARTICIPATING IN THE SEMINAR IN ADDITION TO LLERAS AND ROSENSTEIN-RODAN WERE: CARLOS SANZ DE SANTA MARIA, FORMER HEAD OF CIAP. ANTHONY SOLOMON, FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE WILLIAM RODGERS, FORMER AID OFFICIAL. JAVIER PAZOS FROM VENEZUELA. NICOLAS ARDITO BARLETTA, PANAMANIAN MINISTER OF PLANNING. AND SEVERAL WELL-KNOWN COLOMBIAN FIGURES, INCLUDING EXMINS JOAQUIN VALLEJO, JORGE VALENCIA JARAMILLO AND EX-INCOMEX DIRECTOR RAUL ARBELAEZ.

3. ACCORDING TO PARTICIPANTS, THE SEMINAR CONSISTED PRIMARILY OF A FREE-RANGING DISCUSSION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN LATIN AMERICA AND THE U.S. INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS AND THEIR ORGANIZATION, AND COMMERCIAL AND DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS, INCLUDING COMMODITY PRICING, PREFERENCES AND MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATIONS. APPARENTLY THE DISCUSSION GENERALLY FOLLOWED POINTS IN A PAPER PRESENTED BY ROSENSTEIN-RODAN, WHICH WAS NOT MADE PUBLIC. IT IS NOT KNOWN IF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE WILL BE MADE PUBLIC.

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4. THE SEMINAR WAS CHARACTERIZED BY CARLOS LLERAS AND ROSENSTEIN-RODAN AS A KIND OF PREPARATORY SESSION FOR A CONFERENCE ENTITLED QTE INTERAMERICAN COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE 1970 S (QUO VADIS INTERAMERICAN SYSTEM) END QUOTE, SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER AT THE BU LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER.

5. THE PARTICIPANTS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE MEDELLIN CONFERENCE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, SEMINARS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MEDELL00223
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740195-0074
From: MEDELLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740738/aaaabgmvtel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BOGOTA 4864
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 OCT 2002 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <16 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEMINAR DISCUSSES INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, EGEN, CO, XM, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005